



McClellan Air Force Base, Calif.

Oct. 1, 1998 Vol. 39, No. 37

SPACEMAKER

SM-ALC vision statement: "Completing the mission of McClellan AFB with professionalism and honor"



**AT A
GLANCE**

Quarterly awards packages due Oct. 9

Company grade officer of the quarter nomination packages are due by close of business Oct. 9. Packages (AF Form 1206 and Quality force letter) must be hand carried to Bldg. 200, room 125. Questions should be directed to 1st Lt. Tom Knowles, 643-6127 or 2nd Lt. Ian Rybczynski, 643-0311.

Red Ribbon Week breakfast

The statewide Red Ribbon Week kick off breakfast will be held at the Officers' club Oct. 21, 7 - 8:30 a.m. The cost is \$15. Make your check payable to "cadfy breakfast" and get it to the Substance Abuse Office, Bldg. 1042, 5727 Perrin Road. Deadline for payment is Oct. 9. For more information, call 643-3000. Look for more information in future issues of the *Spacemaker*.

Family Day

Get your junior pilot wings, watch radio controlled air shows, race your best paper airplane and more at the McClellan Aviation Museum Saturday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. It's free and open to the public. For more information, contact the museum at 643-3192.

Enlisted dining out

The enlisted dining out will take place Oct. 16, 6:30 p.m. at the NCO Club. Speaking at the event will be the first Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Paul Wesley Airey. Contact your First Sergeant for ticket information.

FOCUS Center #1 hours

Due to increased activity, FOCUS Center #1 (Bldg. 9) will be open until 7 p.m. on Thursdays, beginning today.

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GAO decision puts workload transtion on hold

Maj. Robert J. Gonzales
SM-ALC Public Affairs

The Air Force was officially notified Monday of the General Accounting Office's decision to support the protest filed by Pemco Aeroplex, Inc. on the McClellan depot maintenance workload competition.

"The Air Force disagrees with the GAO's position and is reviewing its options to proceed," said Brig. Gen. Michael P. Wiedemer, Sacramento Air Logistics Center commander.

The basic disagreement between the Air Force and the GAO revolves around the Air Force's strategy to bundle the McClellan maintenance workload. The Air Force believes this approach will save \$638 million taxpayer dollars while preserving military readiness. The controversial GAO decision requires the Air Force to review its Sacramento depot maintenance options.

The Air Force is discussing the decision with the GAO and is providing them with any additional information they may need according to Navy Captain Mike Doubleday, deputy assistant secretary of defense for public affairs.

Doubleday added at a Tuesday DoD press conference, the DoD does "not agree that their [GAO] decision is an appropriate one in this case, and we [DoD] are not bound by their decision." The DoD believes their approach was "appropriate and in the best interests of not only the government but also the taxpayers."

Wiedemer is well aware of the work force's frustration over the continued dilemma this decision brings, but he offered, "All of us are working to bring the uncertainty to final closure so our

SEE GAO, PAGE 3



Brig. Gen. Robert P. Summers

New vice commander settles in

Victoria R. Merriweather
Chief, Internal Information

When Brig. Gen. Robert P. Summers arrived here less than a month ago, he hit the ground running. In the short time that the new center vice commander has been here, the depot maintenance workload decision was announced and was followed rapidly by the GAO's decision supporting the Pemco protest. In short order, he has rolled up his sleeves and gone right to work without missing a beat.

Since arriving, Summers has been visiting work centers and talking with the people who carry out the mission every day. He already has a high regard for the McClellan work force.

"They are really dedicated, professional people who are doing some really neat things," said

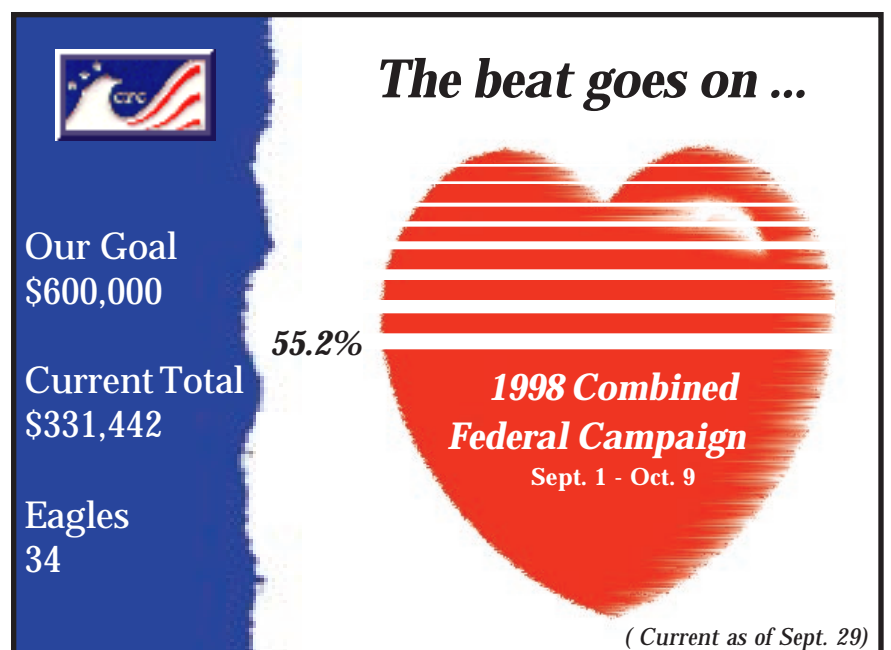
Summers. "I've been out in the shops a lot already. The people are working hard and they're motivated."

Summers said his top three goals for McClellan are clear: complete the mission; take care of people; and close down McClellan Air Force Base with professionalism and honor. After visiting with McClellan workers, Summers is confident the base will achieve these goals.

"Two assumptions that I make about people and I find them to be nearly always true: first, everybody wants to succeed as an individual and second, everybody wants to be on a winning team. That's true everywhere I've gone and it's true here as well."

Summers believes the proof that the McClellan team is the best will be seen in the last product. "Our

SEE VICE COMMANDER, PAGE 3



ACTION LINE

643-3344
Action Line
77 ABW/CC
5241 Arnold Ave.
McClellan AFB, CA 95652-1086
email: Actionline

Since I've been your wing commander, I've had much opportunity to hear from you on how we can make things better. This **Action Line** has been a key avenue and remains a good means to obtain feedback on how we're doing and how we can improve.

If you have or see a problem, try to work it through the responsible agency or activity first, since that will provide the most rapid resolution or action. If you still can't get the problem resolved, then try to work it through your chain of command. If the problem still exists after you've taken these two steps, then let me know so we can try to help.

In your request, please be brief, but include enough information to address the entire issue. Also, please let me know the specific action you want taken. I need your name, duty phone, and address so that we may send you a written response. I treat each call very seriously



Col. W.P. "Bear" Ard
77th Air Base Wing commander

and read each response. If I feel the issue is of interest to the entire McClellan community, we may also print it and the response in the **Spacemaker**.

Our overall goal is to better serve you. In this same vein, we also like to highlight those areas that provide high quality or exceptional support, so we can build upon and expand them. To do these things, I need your involvement.

I also welcome your input in other ways. On a quarterly basis, I hold Town Hall meetings with community members, and I regularly meet with various groups on base (the Chiefs, First Sergeants, etc.). Please plug into one of these avenues to get your voice heard. You have a say in how we serve you!

AAFES.....	920-0537
Civilian Pay.....	643-6725
Civil Engineering.....	643-5624
Civilian Personnel	643-2860
Commissary	643-4954
Crime Stop Hotline.....	643-6161
Dining Hall	643-5092
Family Support Center.....	643-1106
Focus Center #1	643-5661
Fraud, Waste & Abuse	643-6000
Housing	643-6221
Legal	643-3150
Lodging	643-6223

Medical	Appointment Desk -- 643-8400
.....	After Hours -- 643-7212
.....	TRICARE Service Center -- (800) 242-6788
Military Pay.....	643-6965
Military Personnel	643-1094
Public Affairs	643-6127
Retiree Activities	643-2207
Security Forces	643-6160
Services/MWR	643-6660
Social Actions	643-3322
Supply	643-5213
Uniform Questions	643-4051

SPACEMAKER

Air Force Vision

"Air Force people building the world's most respected air and space force ... global power and reach for America"

Air Force Materiel Command Vision

"Quality Systems for America's Air Force"

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Sacramento Air Logistics Center
Bldg. 200, Room 125
(916) 643-6100
<http://www.mcclellan.af.mil/PA/spc.htm>

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CD-ROM recycling

Q Now that we are in the age of electronics, my office receives quite a few CD-ROM's that are replaced monthly by a more current issue. Now I have quite a few discs which are of no use. Is there a place I can send these discs to be recycled? Throwing them away like seems such a waste.

A At other bases, several functions have looked at ways to make the wing more self-sufficient through recycling, refurbishing and reusing parts. At one base, they conducted an experiment for a two-year time frame where the Gold Flag Office was the central collection point of used CD-ROMs for the base. During the collection process, they actively researched a beneficial disposal means. They contacted several companies and were told that the only way these companies would accept their used CD-ROM's is if they had a quantity of 100,000 pounds. The 100,000 pound quantity is the only way any company contacted would even pay the shipping cost.

During their research, they found no monetary value in the collection and were instructed to dispose of them properly through the normal land fill means.

Proper disposal included making the disc unreadable by scratching the back side (shiny side) with a sharp object. Furthermore, they found no hazardous chemical content and no substantial environmental impact caused by landfill disposal.

Peacekeeper Park problem

Q Due to various maintenance (digging) going on, subject park's sprinkler system is not working and the grass is just about dead. I know of one sprinkler head that is broken. It is marked by a red flag. Is it possible to get someone to fix the situation? It's a nice park if it is maintained.

A Thank you for your interest in the condition of the grounds. As stated, there has been a substantial amount of construction in this area lately and there was some unidentified damage. Upon your notification, the grounds maintenance contractor was notified and the necessary repairs have been made.

In the future, you can call 643-4750 and request the Quality Assurance Evaluator for this contract. Repairs can be made quickly, possible avoiding further damage to the landscaping.

Fire prevention week activities for everyone

Courtesy of the Base Fire Department

Come join McClellan Fire Department in recognition of National Fire Prevention Week. Sparky the Fire Dog and Smokey Bear will be at several locations around base during the week. Fire equipment, big and small will also be on display.

Saturday

10:00 a.m. kick-off parade through Capehart Housing. Sparky the Fire Dog and Smokey Bear, base Firefighters other Firefighters will be there. Free gifts.

Monday

Meet Sparky the Fire Dog and Smokey Bear at the Base Exchange
9:30 - 11:30 a.m.



U. S. Air Force Photo by Laura J. Williams

Children of McClellan Firefighters learn fire prevention from Smokey Bear and Sparky the Fire Dog. Engine One Quarter, Smokey and Sparky may be seen on base next week during Fire Prevention Week.

1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Sparky the Fire Dog and Smokey Bear in the "littles" fire engine will be at Bldg. 200 9:30 - 10:30 a.m., and at Bldg. 640 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday

McClellan Firefighters, Sparky the Fire Dog and Smokey Bear, and fire engines will be at the Child Development Center at 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Thursday

Come see Sparky the Fire Dog and Smokey Bear at the Base Exchange with fire engines big and small, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Don't forget the fire escape contest. Deadline is Oct. 10. Call the Youth Center at 643-0274 for details.

'Dumpster diving' helps solid waste management

Sheffy Fields
Environmental Management

You won't find dumpster diving as an Olympic sport. However, you will notice personnel rummaging through refuse containers and inspecting McClellan property to ensure the waste is properly managed.

Proper solid waste management is the practice of monitoring what is placed in the dumpsters. Sometimes the only "thing" placed in a dumpster is something that has no recycle value and is not hazardous. It is also not abandoning waste on the base, i.e., open dumping. Throughout the base, dumpsters contain recyclables ranging from paper products to government equipment, and outside temporary storage areas become open dumping.

These practices can violate federal, state, and local laws; DoD and Air Force

regulations. Improper disposal practices are costly and can subject the base to notices of violation and fines.

The same regulations governing hazardous waste management also

apply to non-hazardous solid waste. Individuals, and not just organizations, can be held liable for clean-up and disposal costs?

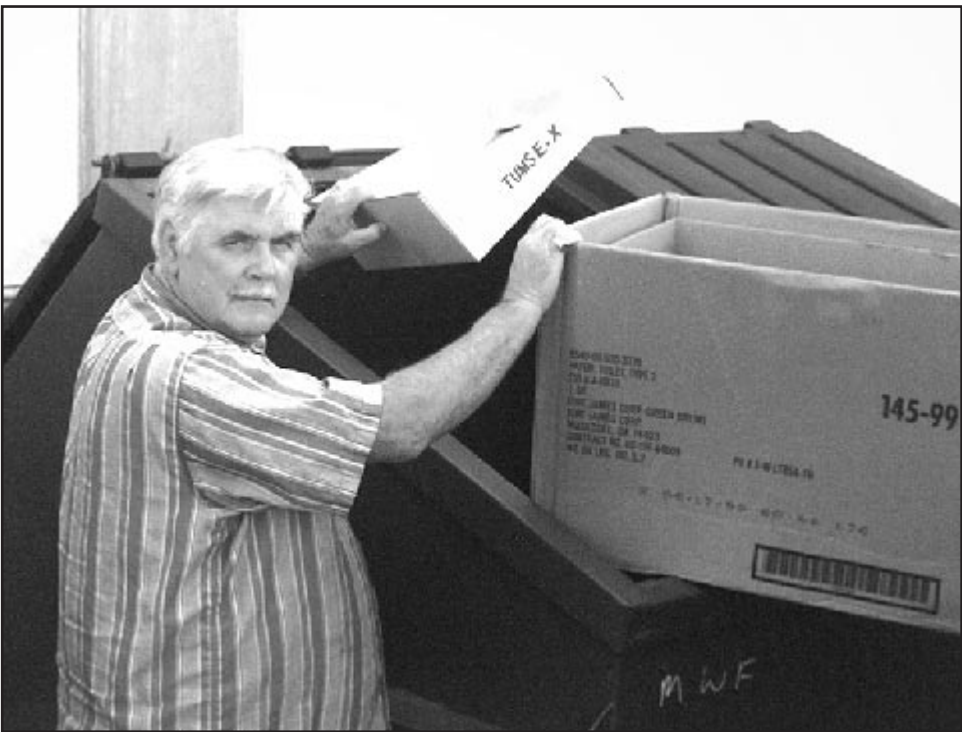
Many improper disposals are the

result of clean-up efforts by organizations affected by closure. Files are being purged; items, once "rat-holed" for tough times, are being discovered; individuals are retiring or relocating, leaving years of stuff behind. The problems arise when individuals decide to throw away rather than recycle or reuse.

To assist organizations with their clean-up efforts, Civil Engineering (Larry Quigley, 643-4750) and Services (Al Escobedo, 643-1482) will provide additional containers for recyclables.

Environmental Management can also assist you in properly recycling hazardous materials, instead of disposing of them as waste. Call the Hazardous Materials Support Center at 643-1687 for more information on recycling hazardous materials.

For additional information, contact the Environmental Management, Solid Waste Program Manager Sheffy Fields at 643-3672, Ext. 325 or email address: fields.sheffy@email.mcclellan.af.mil.



U.S. Air Force Photo by Laura J. Williams

Civil Engineering Group Quality Control Evaluator, Larry Quigley inspects the contents of a dumpster where he found cardboard boxes that should have been placed in the recycle bin.

Retiree Appreciation Day attracts over 500

Ester A. Stubbs
Editor

Saturday, McClellan Air Force Base personnel said "Thank You" to local retirees for their past service and for their dedication to our nation. On a breezy and overcast day, about 550 area retirees, friends and family members came to the Base Theater and Raffety Hall for the Retiree Appreciation Day.

They came from Placerville, Elk Grove, Rancho Cordova. They were veterans of World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. They were members of the Air Force, the Navy, the Army and the Marine Corps.

Their inquiring minds wanted to know about medical benefits and services, legal issues, Base Exchange services, continued support after base closure, and base personnel were there with all the right answers. Brig. Gen. Mike P. Wiedemer, SM-ALC commander assured them, "We will continue to support you. McClellan applauds the important role you provide to the community."

The Top 3 Council and Retiree Affairs Office, with the help of other base organizations, accomplished their mission in providing fun and information for each of the attendees.



U.S. Air Force Photos by Ester A. Stubbs

Carolyn Muller, spouse of retired Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Fred Muller, gets a cholesterol screening checkup from physician assistant 1st Lt. Joel Hill, 77th Medical Group, Family Practice Clinic. Information and medical screening booths were set up throughout the Raffety Hall Ballroom as part of the Retiree Appreciation Day event.



GAO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

people can get on with their lives."

The GAO's decision also caused meetings scheduled for this week with the Ogden

Air Logistics Center to discuss transition schedules to be canceled.

"All of us are working to bring the uncertainty to final closure so our people can get on with their lives."

The Pemco protest challenged the Air Force's determination to combine into one competition the requirements for depot-level maintenance on KC-135 aircraft, A-10

aircraft and various aeronautical commodities.

Wiedemer concluded, "regardless of what new turns this decision brings, our job is, and

remains, to close McClellan Air Force Base with professionalism, honor and civility."

VICE COMMANDER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

last product out of McClellan Air Force Base should be our best product because that's our reputation," he added.

For Summers, a newcomer to Air Force Materiel Command, logistics challenges are nothing new.

In 1995 as commander of the 321st Missile Group at Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D., he started the realignment of the group's missiles — 120 to Malmstrom with all their associated equipment, and 30 to the Ogden Air Logistics Center, Utah.

FERS Q’s and A’s

Courtesy of the Civilian Personnel Benefits Section

September marks the middle of the FERS Transfer Open Season. Here are some commonly asked questions and answers. They are reprinted from the Office of Personnel Management web site.

Q: I am transferring to FERS during the open season. I plan to retire next year at age 55 with 30 years of service. Will I get credit for my sick leave?

A: Yes. Credit for your sick leave will be added the CSRS portion of your annuity. The amount of sick

leave will be the lesser of the amount of sick leave you have when you transfer, or the amount of sick leave you have when you retire.

Q: I am 56 years old, and I am transferring to FERS during the open season. I plan to retire next year. Will I get immediate cost-of-living adjustments after I retire?

A: Yes. The portion of your annuity that is computed under the CSRS rules will receive COLAs according to the CSRS COLA rules.

SEE FERS PAGE, 7

FERS video to be shown

The Office of Personnel Management’s 9 Sep 98 video broadcast focused on Social Security and the federal worker. A majority of federal employees will be eligible for social security benefits based on prior military service, prior work before entering federal service, work performed during federal service under FERS or FICA, or work performed after leaving federal service. A wage earner only needs forty (40) credits to qualify for social security benefits.

Anyone who thinks she or she might qualify for social security benefits would benefit from seeing this video. If you are considering transferring to FERS during the open season, this video is a “must see.” The 1-1/2-hour video will be shown in Building 8, Room 24 at 7, 9, and 11 a.m. 1 and 3 p.m. today, Oct. 5, and Oct. 6.

Beginning 31 Oct copies of the video will be available at the FOCUS Centers. You must make arrangements through the FOCUS Centers to view them.

U.S. Customs Service hiring 1,000

Customs needs 1,000 people world wide now! Perhaps another 1,000 in the near future when new legislation is passed. Positions include Custom Inspectors and Canine Enforcement Officers. If you enjoy working with dogs, this is the job for you!

On Oct. 5, Mr. John Villa-Senor will be in the Base Theater 1 - 2:30 p.m. to brief on how one may apply for these positions.

Applications are already available in the DPC FOCUS Centers: however, you do not want to

miss the briefing! There are great benefits and attractive bonuses available to Customs employees that are not addressed in the application.

There will be no reserve seating. Doors will be locked after 500 people are seated. Mr. Villa-Senor will be available in FOCUS Center #1 (Bldg 9) 3 - 5 p.m. for those who could not attend the briefing, and to answer any additional questions.

NOTE: Admin leave may be used to attend this function.

FOCUS Center Job

City of Sacramento

Position: Parking Enforcement Officer

Salary: \$1,658.69 - \$2,573.03 per month

Exam#: 03630-98-JC6/GH/HK

Close: Oct. 2

Location: Sacramento

Remarks: You may obtain application packets in the employment office lobby 921 Tenth Street, Room 100, Sacramento, California 95814. Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. or by sending a legal size self-addressed stamped envelope.

Congratulations to our October enlisted promotees:

FROM	NAME	UNIT	TO	EFF DATE
Master Sgt.	Jay G. Davidson	652 CLSS	Senior Master Sgt.	Oct. 1
Tech. Sgt.	James D. Bowen	652 CLSS	Master Sgt.	Oct. 1
Tech. Sgt.	Clifford L. Moore	77 OSS	Master Sgt.	Oct. 1
Staff Sgt.	Sammie Gardner III	652 CLSS	Tech. Sgt.	Oct. 1
Staff Sgt.	Robert Greineisen	77 AERMS	Tech. Sgt.	Oct. 1
Staff Sgt.	Troy P. Kohlieber	777 CES	Tech. Sgt.	Oct. 1
Staff Sgt.	Husain H. Shaheed	364 RS	Tech. Sgt.	Oct. 1
Staff Sgt.	Robert J. Yarbrough	77 MSS	Tech. Sgt.	Oct. 1
Senior Airman	Kristina A. Arocho	77 MDOS	Staff Sgt.	Oct. 1
Senior Airman	Garion L. J. Hallmon	652 CLSS	Staff Sgt.	Oct. 1
Senior Airman	Kwanza U. Jenkins	77 MSS	Staff Sgt.	Oct. 1
Senior Airman	James P. Kite	77 MSS	Staff Sgt.	Oct. 1
Senior Airman	Tonisha N. Layne	77 CS	Staff Sgt.	Oct. 1
Senior Airman	Nathaniel P. Niles	TOD	Staff Sgt.	Oct. 1
Senior Airman	James R. Pratt	77 MDOS	Staff Sgt.	Oct. 1
Senior Airman	Michelle A. Roberts	77 CS	Staff Sgt.	Oct. 1
Senior Airman	Lynnette A. Shults	77 MDOS	Staff Sgt.	Oct. 1
Airman 1st Class	Aleza N. Caputo	77 MDSS	Senior Airman	Sept. 15
Airman 1st Class	Kevin A. Carter	TOD	Senior Airman	(BTZ) Sept. 27
Airman 1st Class	William Ferguson	77 CES	Senior Airman	Sept. 20
Airman 1st Class	Christopher Freeman	77 SFS	Senior Airman	Sept. 20
Airman 1st Class	Marcus Gainey	77 SFS	Senior Airman	Sept. 20
Airman 1st Class	Michael D. Hines	77 SFS	Senior Airman	Sept. 6
Airman 1st Class	Cynthia Laurel	77 MDSS	Senior Airman	Sept. 6
Airman 1st Class	Maxine D. Reyes	77 CEG	Senior Airman	Sept. 28
Airman 1st Class	Joaguin C. Sotelo	77 SFS	Senior Airman	Sept. 13
Airman 1st Class	Clayton C. Wood	77 SFS	Senior Airman	Sept. 7
Airman	Christopher Boggs	77 CS	Airman 1st Class	Sept. 19
Airman	Paul A. Casto	77 CS	Airman 1st Class	Sept. 28
Airman	Levi R. Johnson	938 EIS	Airman 1st Class	Sept. 28
Airman	Robert C. Kane	938 EIS	Airman 1st Class	Sept. 19
Airman	Mindy L. Lynch	77 MDSS	Airman 1st Class	Sept. 28
Airman	John M. Norton	938 EIS	Airman 1st Class	Sept. 12
Airman	Paul S. Nuccio	938 EIS	Airman 1st Class	Sept. 19
Airman	Jonathan W. Ridley	938 EIS	Airman 1st Class	Sept. 25
Airman	Kayla A. Taylor	77 MDOS	Airman 1st Class	Sept. 25
Airman Basic	Sylvia H. Aldaz	77 CS	Airman	Sept. 4
Airman Basic	Crystal S. Donahue	77 MSS	Airman	Sept. 11
Airman Basic	Yun Ho Kang	77 MSS	Airman	Sept. 11
Airman Basic	Eugene D. Ross	77 CS	Airman	Sept. 4
Airman Basic	Laurie A. Wallace	77 MDOS	Airman	Sept. 4

Congratulations to Sept. 10 Noncommissioned Officer Academy Class 98-6 graduates:

Tech. Sgt. Leo F. Betti
652nd *Combat Logistics Support Squadron*
Tech. Sgt. Donald J. Erdington
364th Recruiting Squadron
Tech. Sgt. David M. McGinnis
938th Engineering Installation Squadron
Tech. Sgt. Gregory S. Mullinix
77th Medical Group
Tech. Sgt. Daniel W. Waechter
77th Medical Group

Congratulations to Sept. 18 Airman Leadership School Class 98-F graduates:

Senior Airman Brian G. Brown
77th Communications Squadron
Senior Airman Brian S. Cayne
77th Medical Group
Senior Airman Gertrudes H. Custodio
77th Medical Group
Senior Airman David W. Faulkner
77th Communications Squadron
Senior Airman Michael J. Kitchens
77th Security Forces Squadron
Senior Airman Michael R. Kuettel
77th Security Forces Squadron
Senior Airman Edward G. Pineda
Technical Operations Division
Senior Airman Tiffany D. Sykes
77th Medical Group
Senior Airman Sean L. Taylor
77th Medical Group
Senior Airman Michelle R. Thomas
77th Mission Support Squadron
Senior Airman Robert Thurber
77th Communications Squadron
Senior Airman Steven J. Zody
938th Engineering Installation Squadron



Social



LOA luncheon

The Logistics Officer's Association will host a luncheon Wednesday at 11:30 in the Officers' Club, Daedalian Room. The self-serve lunch is open to all logistics officers (active or retired) and civilian equivalent. Federal Express District Sales manager for Silicon Valley, Darrell Roberts will provide a look at current and projected FED EX operations. Topics will include: How FED EX manages stock levels, the use of virtual inventory, FED EX involvement with the government, what FED EX is looking at for the future, the future of supply chain management, what the customer should be looking at, and how FED EX helps prepare the customer for the future. For more information contact Capt. Mark Weber at 643-4231, Ext. 526 no later than Monday to reserve a seat.

NCOA member appreciation picnic

The Central Valley Chapter and *Spirit of Sacramento* Auxiliary Chapter of the Noncommissioned Officers Association will sponsor a Member Appreciation Picnic Oct. 17 at Freedom Park from noon until 4 p.m. The picnic also include children's games and activities and a clown. This is to say 'Thank you' to all the volunteers who supported the many fund-raising and community activities during the year. For more information, contact Melanie Barry at 922-8870 or Tammy Sullivan at 568-4123.



Curb Service



Neighborhood clean-up

On Saturday, Oct. 17 housing occupants will have the opportunity to dispose of unwanted personal belongings. Items must be placed at the curb prior to Saturday morning. Small items must be in plastic bags to be accepted.

Do not put out green composting and brown trash containers or appliances that contain freon, rocks dirt, concrete, toxic or flammable materials.

For more information, call Larry Quigley at 643-4750.



Officers' Wives Club



Mansion memories

The McClellan Officers' Wives Club will host a Mansion Memories luncheon Oct. 13 in the Officers' Club. The social begins at 11 a.m. with lunch to follow at 11:30 a.m. Menu choices include: citrus chicken, green beans, salad and rolls or chef salad with rolls. The cost is \$7.20 for members and \$9.20 for non-members. During the luncheon we will be "edutained" with living history — docents in vintage clothing, portraying California Governor's wives and other characters who occupied the Sacramento Governor's mansion from 1877-1967. For reservations please call Vicki Adair at 920-8684 or Vicky Hayden at 923-0459 before noon, Oct. 9.

Jewelry sale

The McClellan Officers' Wives Club will sponsor James Quality Jewelers of Bangkok, Thailand jewelry sale Tuesday and Wednesday, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the Officers' Club lobby. This jewelry and brassware sale is open to all active duty, retirees and civilian personnel affiliated with McClellan Air Force Base. There will be an additional 10 percent discount on all items. Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to start your Christmas shopping early. Profits from this OWC fundraiser benefit many local organizations.



Retirees



Flu shots

The VA Sacramento medical center at Mather Field will be administering flu shots Oct. 15 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. All retirees and their spouses will be given the vaccine as long as supplies last. In addition, if you need a pneumonia shot, that also will be provided. Questions can be referred to retirees Chief Master Sgt. George Moses at 643-4011.



F.Y.I.



SMW membership meeting

The Society of Military Widows, Sacramento Chapter #5, membership and business meeting will be held Friday, at 1 p.m. in the Chapel Annex.

Leave donations needed

Leave donations are needed for Glen Barber and Betty Webb, accounting technicians for Defense Commissary Agency. If you can spare an hour, a day or a week of annual leave, please contact Christine K. Boswell for the appropriate forms necessary to complete the transactions.

MOA conference '98

The Maintenance Officer Association 1998 conference will convene Oct. 25-28, at Hill Air Force Base, Utah. It is open to all logistics officers. Attendees will include: HQ AFMC/CC, HQ USAF/ILM, HQ USAF/ILS. The theme is "Maintenance Optimizing Technological Advances." Membership eligibility for the Maintenance Officer Association is logistics officer or civilian equivalent. The purpose of MOA is to promote quality maintenance and logistics officer professional development, and to provide a forum for dialogue on leadership, management and technical matters affecting aerospace forces. Agenda includes dynamic speakers, panel discussions, contractor exhibits and optional golf tournament. Permissive TDY can be used.

For information including fees, transportation and lodging options, contact Capt. Mark Weber at 643-4231, Ext. 526 no later than Wednesday.



Web site



TDY site information

Going TDY? The 77th ABW Intelligence office built an unclassified Web site that links you to the latest news and information for most of the countries you are likely to travel to. All military and DoD personnel going TDY overseas must come to 77th ABW Intelligence office for an out briefing. This new Web site, coupled with the out brief, will inform personnel of general terrorist threats, crime levels, and the political climate of these countries.

The Web site is at <http://www-int.mcclellan.af.mil/XP/XPIN>. Add this new Web site to your Bookmarks or Favorites. For more information, contact Lt. Mark Koch, 77ABW/XP, at 643-6027.

Now showing at the Base Theater

The Avengers - Friday

Ralph Fiennes, Uma Thurman - Based on the 1960's quirky British television series, two amazing secret agents are reunited, the unflappable duo of John Steed and Emma Peel. Their mission is to stop a diabolical mad scientist with plans for world domination. In their stylish but relentless fashion, they seek to stop the villain for personal as well as professional reasons. Conditions are dark. The forecast is deadly. Tea, anyone? PG-13 (brief strong language). 90 minutes.

Saving Private Ryan - Saturday and Sunday

Tom Hanks, Edward Burns - Shortly after the D-Day invasion, a squad of U.S. Army Soldiers are on a perilous mission behind enemy lines. Their assignment is to save Private James Ryan, the last survivor of a family of four brothers all killed in action. R (prolonged realistically graphic sequences of war, violence and language.) 168 minutes.

All movies start at 7 p.m.

Deadline is tomorrow for CFC Relay Marathon entries

Col. Thomas Hayden
77th Civil Engineer Group
commander

For those of you who missed my first article, the base is hosting a Challenge Relay Marathon Oct.6, 11 a.m., at Freedom Park to show what kind of "grit" we have in our base athletes to support the Combined Federal Campaign. The idea is to have some fun, show our athletic prowess, and do something good for others less fortunate.

The deadline for registration is tomorrow. Register at the 77th CEG, Bldg. 21. You will be asked to list all your team runners when you register the team and pay the team entry fee. At that time, you'll be given pledge sheets to get CFC pledges (the real reason we're doing all this).

Brig. Gen. Mike Wiedemer, SM-ALC commander, has led the way by challenging the Chiefs to another Eagles-Chiefs sporting event ... a relay marathon. Yes, that's 26.2 miles! Brig. Gen. Wiedemer and Chief Master Sgt. Leonard Czepiel, SM-ALC senior enlisted advisor, will each run the first leg, before handing off to the next runner.

The Eagles and Chiefs race starts at 11 a.m., and the race for all competing units starts at 11:15 a.m.

Squadrons and other units can enter a 13-person team to compete for "gold, silver and bronze" medal awards.

Runners will be issued pledge cards to get sponsors for the relay, with all donations going to the Combined Federal Campaign.

Rules:

1. Each team will have 13 runners, entry fee \$5 each (\$65 per

team); each runner runs 2 miles except the lead runner who runs 2.2 miles.

2. Teams can enter with less than 13 runners, but the team entry fee then goes up to \$100; you must have 13 runners on Race Day if you wish to qualify for the "Gold, Silver, and Bronze" medal awards (this is to be fair to all participants).

3. Medal awards will be given to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams (each runner). There will also be first and second-place awards for the top two teams with the highest dollar value

There will be a pre-race meeting for all team captains on Monday, at 2 p.m. in Rafferty Hall.

If you want to run on a team, but don't have a unit team, or a unit has "extras", contact 2nd Lt. Karen Smola at 643-5316.

We are in desperate need of volunteer race day officials to man relay stations and critical points along the race route. This type of event will never take place without the help of many volunteers that make it happen. Please do your part for the CFC and volunteer by calling 2nd Lt. Smola at 643-5316.

There have been several units telling me about teams they're putting together eight teams to date, if this "big talk" is accurate. The CEG team, the defending 1997 Gold Medal champs, are anxious to obliterate all challengers-again.

Also, all of you should know the Eagles team was the first to register! These magnificent athletes are:

Brig. Gen. Wiedemer, Lead-off

1. Col. "Bear" Ard
2. Col. Bob Martinelli
3. Col. Keith Caudle
4. Col. Gerald Adair
5. Col. Ron Scoville
6. Col. Mike Iltis
7. Jim Barone
8. Col. Keith Chandler
9. Col. Mike Turner
10. Col. Rick Stearman
11. Col. Roger Bower
12. Col.(sel.) Terry Jones
13. Col. Tom Hayden

Alternates: Col. Sterling Palmer, Col. Tom Brown, and Capt. (U.S. Coast Guard) Mike Saylor.

I just have one more thing to say: Where are you, Chiefs?



of pledges.

4. Finisher medals will be given to all members of teams that carry the relay baton across the finish line.

5. All runners should build a pledge list for the CFC for running miles. All money earned for the CFC through the marathon will count toward a unit's eagle award. Pledge cards will be provided when a team signs up.

6. Individuals earn pledges based on team mileage. For example, if Mr Jones pledges \$.10 per mile against Staff Sergeant Smith of the 77th CES team, and the team finishes the 26.2 miles, Jones owes \$2.62 to the CFC.

7. The marathon course is 2 laps around scenic McClellan, with the relay baton exchange every two miles. The race course is shown on a map in the Base Gym.

Note that this is not an individual marathon, but a relay marathon.



Youth Center

Today: Open recreation, 1-7 p.m. Open gym, 1-3 p.m. and 4 - 6 p.m. Snack bar, 1 - 7 p.m. Advanced Gymnastics, 3 - 4 p.m.

Friday: Open recreation, 1 - 6 p.m.; open gym, 1 - 6 p.m.; snack bar, 1 - 6 p.m.; Skate Night, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Grades K - 3 \$2.75 members, \$3.75 guests..

Saturday: Open recreation, noon - 5 p.m.; open gym, noon - 5 p.m.; snack bar, noon - 5 p.m.

Sunday: Closed

Monday: Open recreation, open gym, snack bar, 2 - 7 p.m.

Tuesday: Open recreation, 2 - 7 p.m.; open gym, 4:15 - 6 p.m, snack bar, 2 - 7 p.m. Beginning Gymnastics 2:15 - 3:15 p.m. and 3:15 - 4:15 p.m. Piano lessons 3 - 6 p.m. Tae Kwon Do, 6 - 7 p.m.

Wednesday: Open recreation, gym and snack bar, 2 - 7 p.m.; Couples Communication Class, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. To sign up, call Family Advocacy at 643-1518. First Youth Center Visit Tour 5 p.m.

Recreation Briefs

Learn to Fly

The Aero Club offers flight instruction and ground school training to the McClellan Air Force Base community. Flying lessons are available by appointment and are very affordable. The club's FAA-approved flight instructors can put you in the pilot's seat today. For information about aero club opportunities, call 643-3264.

Adventure Trips

Outdoor Recreation offers outdoor adventure trips throughout the year. Warm weather trips include fishing, kayaking, parasailing, rock climbing, gold panning, and whitewater rafting. If cold weather suits you more, downhill skiing, snow-boarding, and cross-country skiing activities are also available. Trips are fun and affordable for the entire family. For a real adventure, call 643-0400.

Honor Guard members lend hand to accident victims

Members of the Base Honor Guard and the Coast Guard Honor Guard showed that “service before self” extends well beyond the gates of McClellan.

Laura J. Williams
Staff Writer

Four women in an early model Blazer were in the fast lane headed west on I-80 near Dixon at 7 a.m. on Sept. 22. The driver of the vehicle fell asleep at the wheel. Without control, the vehicle drifted from the fast lane across two other lanes of traffic, off the road into a ditch and flipped over, coming to rest upside down.

At the same time, Air Force and the Coast Guard Honor Guard members from McClellan Air Force Base were on the same road on their way to Travis Air Force Base to rehearse for the Military Gala.

When Coast Guard Petty Officer 3rd Class Daniel Jeffords, Petty Officer 3rd Class Kevin R. Doucet and Petty Officer 2nd Class Randall Purdy arrived on the scene, several civilian vehicles were stopped and the drivers, including an



U.S. Air Force Photo by 1st Lt. John S. Hutcheson
Senior Airman Sean Taylor, radiology technician with the 77th Medical Group and a member of the Base Honor Guard, assisted in treating four accident victims Sept. 22 enroute to Travis Air Force Base.

off-duty fireman, were attempting to render aid.

The Coast Guard personnel quickly surveyed the scene. Two women were in the ditch in mud. One woman was half in the vehicle and half out. Another was collapsed at the top of the ditch embankment after attempting to get to the road for help.

They turned off the ignition of the vehicle to eliminate the danger of an explosion and worked with the civilians on scene to stabilize the victims. In addition, they used cellular phones to call for emergency services. They carefully immobilized the head and neck of each victim as she was

moved from the mud and water of the ditch to a more comfortable and stabile resting place.

About this time, the bus carrying about 50 Air Force Honor Guard members arrived on scene. Airman 1st Class Yurandol Powers, medical technician; Senior Airman Sean Taylor, Senior Airman Brian Cayne, radiology technicians; Senior Airman Duane Velasquez and Airman 1st Class Kimberly Murcheson, bioenvironmental engineering technicians, began immediately to assist with the assessment and treatment of the victims. They gathered pillows, blankets and blouses from the other personnel to use for the comfort of the injured women. They treated victims for shock and kept them conscious until paramedics arrived.

Capt. Soleiman Rahel of Technical Operations Division, and Tech. Sgt. Maurice Mulqueen of the 938th Engineering Installation Squadron, directed traffic safely around the area and guided emergency vehicles to the scene.

When the paramedics arrived, the McClellan personnel helped put cervical collars and other immobilizing equipment on the victims and load them onto litters and into the ambulances. Each of the women were transported to the hospital.

The Honor Guard was an hour late for their rehearsal.

FERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

That portion will get full COLA increases when they are paid to CSRS retirees. However, the first COLA increase will be prorated according to how many months have passed since you retired.

The portion of your annuity that is computed under the FERS rules will receive COLAs according to the FERS COLA rules. That portion of your annuity will get no COLAs until you are 62. Then you get COLAs that are 1 percent less than the cost-of-living adjustments as measured by the Consumer Price Index, except that FERS matches the CPI up to 2 percent.

Q: Is there a minimum period of service required under FERS before I can retire under FERS?

A: No, except that you need five years of total civilian service to retire. Your past CSRS service counts toward this five-year requirement. Note that your survivor's benefit will be computed under FERS. However, it takes a full month of service under FERS for any of your annuity to be computed under FERS.

Q: When do annuities begin under FERS?

A: Except for disability, discontinued service, and military service technician benefits, FERS benefits begin on the first day of the month after separation for retirement. The CSRS provision allowing benefits to begin the next day if an employee separates on the first, second or third day of the month does not apply to FERS or to the CSRS portion of FERS.

Q: I have 43 years of service under CSRS and I want to avoid the “80% limitation.” If I transfer to FERS, can my annuity exceed 80% of my average pay?

A: Yes, but only if it is the FERS portion of your annuity that causes the total annuity to exceed 80% of your average pay. The CSRS portion is still limited to 80% of your average pay.

OSI, Security Forces conducting random vehicle inspections

“Ne’er-do-wells” and miscreants beware. The McClellan Office of Special Investigations and the 77th Security Forces Squadron are conducting contraband narcotics interdiction checks of vehicles leaving the base.

The checks are designed not only to intercept any contraband that may be leaving the base, but to act as a visible deterrent to other would be criminals.

“The more we’re out there, the more people see us, and the more they’ll think twice about taking equipment off the base,” said OSI Special Agent Susan Malsam.

Malsam said OSI and Security Forces will continue the random vehicle checks at different times and at different gates around base.



Above: OSI Special Agent Susan Malsam checks Robert Smith's license and registration during a random vehicle check at the Palm Gate Sept. 24.



Left: Senior Airman David Ward, 77th Security Forces Squadron, checks under the hood of a vehicle for contraband during a random vehicle check.

U.S. Air Force Photos by 1st Lt. John S. Hutcheson

Gala celebrates McClellan's 60-year history

By the time the 1998 Capital City Military Gala was over Saturday night, one thing was certain: when the military and the city of Sacramento get together, they throw one heck of a party. Over 500 people packed the Sacramento Convention Center to celebrate the men and women of the armed services, and in particular, the men and women who have come through McClellan's gates over its 60-year history.

Five former commanders joined military and civilian personnel from McClellan, Travis and Beale Air Force bases as well as Sacramento community leaders for the event which featured a stirring POW/MIA ceremony from the McClellan Honor Guard, musical performances by members of the Air Force Band of the Golden West and an exhibition by the Sabre Drill Team, Maxwell Air Force Base Gunter Annex, Ala.



Photo by retired Chief Master Sgt. Jim Kearns



U.S. Air Force Photo by 1st Lt. John S. Hutcheson

Above: SM-ALC Commander, Brig. Gen. Mike Wiedemer presents former SM-ALC Commander Maj. Gen. Eugene L. Tattini with a framed copy of the poem "High Flight" at Saturday's Military Gala.

Left: Members of the Standard Systems Group Sabre Drill Team from Maxwell Air Force Base Gunter Annex, Ala. dazzle the 500-person audience with precise movements and breathtaking sabre tosses during their performance Saturday.



Photo by retired Chief Master Sgt. Jim Kearns

Members of the McClellan, Travis and Beale honor guards, led by Staff Sgt. Tina Black, NCOIC of the McClellan Honor Guard, carry all fifty state flags into the grand ballroom at Saturday's Military Gala.



Photo by retired Chief Master Sgt. Jim Kearns

Leaders from McClellan's present and past gathered at Saturday's Military Gala to celebrate 60 years of McClellan history. Shown here are current SM-ALC Commander, Brig. Gen. Mike Wiedemer, and former commanders, Maj. Gen. Eugene L. Tattini, retired Maj. Gen. John F. Phillips, retired Lt. Gen. Trevor A. Hammond, retired Maj. Gen. Lee V. Greer and retired Maj. Gen. Herbert J. Gavin.



Photo by retired Chief Master Sgt. Jim Kearns

Airman 1st Class LaTarsha Turner inverts the glass at the "table set for one" during the POW/MIA observance at Saturday's Military Gala. Retired Chief Master Sgt. George Moses of the McClellan Retiree Affairs Office recited the narrative.